

Meteor Herau

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Chièvres

Schinnen

Brussels

June 3, 2005

Quick Read

Belgium

Employee retires

Len Mazzitelli retired May 31 from 39th Signal Bn. after a career of 45 years in government service as both an enlisted per-



Mazzitelli

civilian employee the fields of information technology and telecommunications. A native of

son and a

Pittston, Pa., Mazzitelli retires to spend more time with his wife and their families, to include their two granddaughters, Chiara, 5; and Alexandra, 2.

Survey due

The MWR Leisure Needs Assessment Survey response date is extended to June 17. The time has come to evaluate the MWR programs within the USAG Chièvres, including SHAPE facilities. If you have received a survey, please complete it and return it using the supplied envelope, or go online to www.ArmyMWRSurvey.com. If you would like to participate, please call DSN 361-5904.







The U.S. Ambassador to Belgium Tom C. Korologos lays a wreath at Flanders Field American Cemetery in Waregem, Belgium May 29 to honor those killed during World War I.

Two thousand Americans and Belgians packed into the cemetery that holds 368 American service members to pay their respects for those who gave all for freedom.

Flanders battlefield a classroom

By J.D. Hardesty

The bloodstained sloping hillside where 1.3 million allied and enemy troops perished during the four-year battle for the Ypres Salient area of Belgium in World War I became an outdoor classroom for officers and senior enlisted Soldiers during the 80th Area Support Group's battlefield walk May 20.

The battlefield scars for the war's last significant city in Belgium not in German hands still exist today after nearly 90 years and symbolically embody the soul of World War I.

An agrarian area of green fields and plowed earthen rows hides much of the tumultuous times where 10 to 20 artillery shells pockmarked the area every minute for more than four years and poison gas warfare became an effective and versatile weapon that would claim 72,000 American casualties.

"Ypres was all about transforming warfighting forces," said Lt. Col. Scott Glass, director for the 80th's of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security. "Both sides had to transition from the traditional infantry and cavalry campaigns to trench warfare. Both used innovative, if horrible weapons to break the stalemate in the trenches."

Troops from the U.S. Army's 27th and 30th divisions entered the battlefield in 1918, joining the French, British, Belgians and Canadians for the real estate that had cost American allies one man killed

for each square yard of ground gained the previous year.

"Personal courage of noncommissioned officers is always a requirement for a force to train, fight and win," said Headquarters Co., 80th ASG 1st Sgt. Michael Roth, as he discussed

the lessons from the training. "The American divisions fighting in Ypres faced huge challenges that the NCO corps had to confront and overcome."

The landscape is appealing, but the scars still linger. Two easily distinguishable locations that seem to eulogize the fierceness of the fight were detailed by Noel Vallaeys, a professional WWI guide for the Ypres Salient; concrete bunkers built nine decades ago and a crater from the largest blast to rout the Germans from their high-ground position along the Messines Ridge.

Seven British concrete bunkers used to bombard the Germans located on the Messines Ridge in 1917 are now providing shelter for goats on the Lankof farm.

Many of the largest artillery craters serve as livestock

At Spanbroekmolen, there is the "Pool of Peace," a water-filled crater 25 meters deep and 75 meters wide where 91,000 pounds of ammonal was primed with 1,000 pounds of dynamite was just one of 19 mines exploding on "Hill-

60" in an allied underground tunnel to dislodge the Germans from the ridge during the war to end all wars that claimed more than 10 million lives and forever changed the political map of the world.

Capt. Rose Price, an 80th ASG logistical officer, said of the training, "I am new, so I look forward to participating in more battlefield walks. The sacrifice of the Soldiers cannot help but impact your heart."



Poppies still grow "...in Flanders Fields."

Col. Dean A. Nowowieiski 80th ASG Commander

As we enter the summer season after Memorial Day, it's survey time. With the release of this issue of the Meteor-Heraut, there are two surveys on the street that are critical to your future, and important enough for me to highlight here. With both, the message is simple: if you don't vote by participating, don't complain about the

Nowowiejski Notes

results later. In both cases, the population who is eligible to participate in the survey will set the conditions of our communities for the rest of us so in a way, those who are eligible to take these surveys are our community representatives.

The first survey is the Living Pattern Survey for Military Cost of Living Allowance. Only uniformed servicemembers living in the communities of SHAPE/Chievres (Belgian Province of Hainaut) and Kleine Brogel (Belgian Province of Limberg)and Brunssum/Schinnen (Province of Limburg, The Netherlands) within our footprint can complete this survey. This online survey drives a later phase of the COLA survey called the Retail Price Report, so it is a condition setter. The military COLA survey also has indirect influence on separate Department of State and Department of Defense civilian living allowances. So a very few of us will influence the cost of living allowances in Belgium and The Netherlands for all the rest. To give you a sense of this, for Hainaut Province in Belgium where SHAPE is, there are just over 400 servicemembers eligible who will vote for all of us. If you wish to vote, and are one of the lucky ones who are eligible, please go to: https:/ /www.perdiem.osd.mil/oscola/lps/ germany/ to complete your survey. You must do so by 15 June, before the next issue of this newspaper.

The second survey only happens once every 3 years. It is the **Army Lei**sure Needs Survey. This instrument provides local feedback on the quality of service to Morale Welfare and Recreation leaders, and helps to establish the level of support for MWR programs at Department of the Army. The main thing this survey does is give you a voice into what you want

from MWR. Only servicemembers and **DoD civilians** can complete this survey. Some selected individuals have received these surveys in hard copy. If you desire to volunteer to do a survey, you will need a control number first. From SHAPE/Chievres or Brussels call MWR Marketing at +32 68 27 5904 or DSN 361-5904 or e mail your request to BENELUXLink@benelulx.army.mil.For Brunssum/Schinnen, call Mr. Ellison Meier at +31 46 443 or DSN 360-7487. After you have a control number, you can complete the entire survey on the web at http://www.armymwrsurvey. com/. You only have until 17 June to complete this survey.

I know we are all busy. We have a chance to have input into our level of Cost of Living Allowances and the quality of the MWR programs which meet our communities' leisure needs. Please make your voice count. Take the time, probably about 30 minutes each, to provide let your voice be heard. A few of you will speak for the rest of us. We all thank you in advance.

Motorcycle crash kills two USAREUR Soldiers

19 May 2005 Bell Sends #24-05 **SAFETY ALERT** Two Soldiers Killed in Motorcycle Crash

- 1. USAREUR lost two more Soldiers this past weekend in a tragic motorcycle crash. The Soldiers were riding late at night when the operator lost control of the motorcycle and hit a guardrail. Both Soldiers were thrown from the bike and suffered massive internal injuries. A host-nation doctor pronounced them dead at the scene.
- 2. Although the crash is still under investigation, initial reports indicate that the motorcycle was traveling 140 kilometers per hour (kph) in a 70 kph zone. Apparently neither Soldier—both of whom were sergeants—properly assessed the risks associated with their actions. As a result, both Soldiers paid the ultimate price. One left behind a wife and child, and the other left behind a wife and two children. What a heartbreaking loss.
- 3. Unfortunately, motorcycle accidents such as this are not isolated events. So far this fiscal year, 24 Soldiers have died in motorcycle accidents across the Army, which is more than the number killed in motorcycle accidents during all of FY 04. This is an ominous beginning for our motorcycle-riding season. If this trend continues, the Army will lose Soldiers to motorcycle crashes in numbers not seen since the 1970s and 1980s.
- 4. Operating a motorcycle in excess of posted speed limits or too fast for road conditions is fraught with danger. It is also contrary to our Army Values and the Warrior Ethos. Even operating a motorcycle properly involves significant risk.
- · A recent National Highway Safety Institute study reported that motorcyclists are about 26 times more

likely to die in a crash than someone riding in a passenger vehicle. In 2001, motorcycles represented 2.2 percent of all registered vehicles in the United States and accounted for 0.34 percent of all vehicle miles traveled. However, crashes involving motorcycles accounted for 7.6 percent of all traffic fatalities.

- · About 80 percent of reported motorcycle crashes result in injury or death, while only about 20 percent of reported automobile crashes result in injury or death.
- · A motorcycle provides virtually no protection in a crash, which is one of the main reasons why motorcyclists are killed. In comparison, an automobile has door beams and a roof to provide some protection in case of impact or rollover, cushioning and airbags to soften the impact, and safety belts to hold passengers in their seats. An automobile also has more weight and bulk than a motorcycle, is easier for other drivers to see, has windshield washers and wipers to im-

prove visibility during inclement weather, and is more stable because it has four wheels

- 5. While some studies indicate that most motorcycle accidents are due to errors by automobile drivers, our experience in the Army is different. Most of our motorcycle fatalities are due to operators traveling at excessive speed, engaging in high-risk maneuvers, riding under the influence of alcohol, or failing to use the proper personal protective equipment. These fatalities could have been prevented.
- · Leaders: It is your responsibility and duty to counsel and mentor your Soldiers. Identify your motorcycle riders. Ensure that they know how to practice

composite risk management and make good riskmanagement decisions. In addition, ensure that they know what constitutes high- and low-risk behavior. Those who demonstrate high-risk behavior-and you know who they are—require your attention. Use your authority to suspend the licenses of those who show a lack of good judgment about safe and prudent motorcycle operation.

· Motorcyclists: The authorization to operate a motorcycle in Europe is a privilege, not a right. Your

authorization to ride a motorcycle depends on your willingness to ride responsibly and safely. This means riding within your ability, observing the speed limit, not making risky maneuvers, not drinking and riding, and using the proper safety equipment. Riding a motorcycle is a risk in itself. Do not increase that risk by riding irresponsibly.

6. To prevent more tragedies, I ask each of you to consider the consequences of your actions and watch out for your family members, friends, and colleagues. Do not put yourself or others at risk, and do not be afraid to speak up if you see others engaging in

risky behavior. Don't walk by.

7. Ensure that this safety alert is given the widest possible distribution by forwarding it electronically and posting it on unit bulletin boards. No Loss of Life is our goal. We must continue to strive for that goal as we execute with excellence Any Mission, Anywhere.



Gen. B. B. Bell

31318lq

B.B.BELL General, US Army Commanding

MWR program price increases timed for Cost of Living Allowance survey

HEIDELBERG, GE- With the goal to continue to provide Soldiers and families with top-quality Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs, the Installation Management Agency-Europe MWR Division has announced necessary price and fee increases have taken effect June 1.

Price changes are for only some recreation and business programs and services within communities where adjustments are needed, and

not all MWR patrons will see price

The good news is the adjustment in prices is timed to coincide with the cost-of-living allowance (COLA) pricing survey this summer. Making necessary price adjustments now, rather than continuing to delay them, ensures any higher prices will be included in the COLA pricing survey.

Further information is available at http://www.mwr-europe.com.

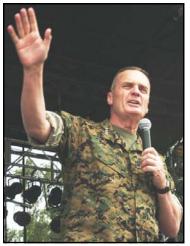
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Toby Keith uses wide brush for 'Red, White and Blue'





SHAPE Commander U.S. Marine Corps General James L. Jones introduced Keith.

Story and photos by J.D. Hardesty

The Armed Forces fighting in Iraq are giving its people, "a taste of freedom for the first

time," so one of the American military's staunchest supporters gave thousands of troops serving overseas a patriotic salute – country music style.

Toby Keith, an outspoken supporter of the men and women who wear the uniform and promise to defend the nation, filled the 3,000-plus attending the free open-air concert May 21 – Armed Forces Day – on the rugby field at SHAPE with flag waving, foot stomping, hand clapping music for nearly two hours with his patented

patriotic songs and number one country hits.

People staked out front row positions early as lawn chairs and blankets started marking listener's reservations as early as 5:30 a.m., for what would turn out to be the largest concert ever held at the multinational headquarters.

Keith, a two-time consecutive winner of the "Academy of Country Music Entertainer of the Year" kicked off his USO tour with a free concert in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, before giving 12 concerts in 12 days throughout Iraq, SHAPE, and Mannheim, Germany.

"I met the men and women serving in Iraq and I trusted them so much I went on a 30-minute ride around the streets of Baghdad with them," Keith said. "I've met the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines giving Iraq a taste of freedom for the first time and I can tell you we are in good hands."



Keith's voice became a staple of military communities in 2002 when he released the hit "Courtesy Of The Red, White And Blue (The Angry American)," which described the

Statue of Liberty "shaking her fist" in response to the lations of members of the Armed Forces.

"When you look down at the helmets, flak vests and weapons you forget these Soldiers are someone's son, daughter, father or mother. You look them in the eye and you see a spirit, a soul... but America's Soldiers are just working people ... a special breed to do what your country



Americans were not the only nationality showing their colors at the May 21 Toby Keith concert on SHAPE.

attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

His devotion to service members is clear as he sang "American Soldier," which chronicles the trials and tribuasks you to do," he said. "Freedom doesn't come free. I'm proud of America's girls and America's boys and I'm proud of my red white and blue."

A normal man from Normantown, Ga. rests in Flanders Fields

By Lt. Col. Scott Glass

The poem "In Flanders Fields" by John McCrae could describe the typical American doughboy, one of the approximately 115,000 American military deaths during World War I. Private Levin T. Brown is one of the 368 American soldiers buried in Flanders Field American Cemetery near Waregem, Belgium. Brown is the only Georgian buried there.

Levin Brown grew up near Normantown, a small farming community split between Toombs and Emanuel County in hot south Georgia.



Inducted into the United States Army, Levin Brown reported to the 37th Infantry Div. for training and once overseas, Levin found himself posted to the 148th Infantry Reg. in the division. Levin Brown's commander quickly assigned him the duties of a company runner. It implies that Levin was physically fit and dependable enough that his commander trusted him to carry important messages and get them through.

The 37th Infantry Div. was put into the front line in late July 1918 and saw action in the bloody campaign of the Meuse-Argonne and in and around the province of Lorraine.

According to family sources, a German sniper shot Brown as he moved around the battle area to deliver a message. The war had only 11 short days to go before the Armistice, but for Levin Brown his earthly existence ended on the last day of October.

Levin Brown and 367 of his comrades who shared a similar fate still lay buried near Waregem. They are quietly sleeping and patiently waiting as the dead soldiers always do for you and your family to visit them someday.

A breeze freshens from the Philippines

May was Asian-Pacific Island Heritage Month in the U.S. military. Meet three women in the SHAPE community who have made the journey from the Philippines to become part of the American fabric of diverse cultures.

By Rick Haverinen Bernadette Cantu

"My mother was Purificacion

Razon. She was

born in 1925 and

she died in March

at age 80. In 1942

when the Japa-

nese had occu-

pied the Philip-

pine Islands, my

was

mother



passed by some Japanese Soldiers but she refused to

bow. The Japanese always wanted you to bow. And the Japanese called her over and slapped her for not bowing to them."

"When



Purificacion Razon



National Archives and Records Admin.

Along the March of Death in the Philippines, these prisoners have their hands tied behind their backs. The March of Death began April 10, 1942, from Bataan to Cabanatuan, the prison camp, about 75 miles away. Thousands of Americans were killed enroute by their captors.

they had the Bataan Death March, my mother offered one of the American prisoners some water and the Japanese got mad. And she said that those Americans that could not walk anymore were just killed by the Japanese."

"She was very young. And I think she had great courage, to offer water to an American prisoner, and yet there were Japanese there watching everything. She didn't care what the Japanese would do to her. She tried to help, no matter what. No matter if it would cost her life. I don't think I

would do that. I would be afraid. She had all that courage."

Sgt. 1st Class Marlyne Osmena

U.S. Army NATO

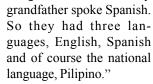
"I came to San Diego, Calif., at age 20 in 1988. Ten months later my sister and I joined the Army."

"My culture shock in America was when I noticed that people don't know their neighbors. Where I grew up in the Philippines, everyone knew their neighbors. So it was really hard for me, but I had sisters who helped me learn about life here."

"The first time I went back to the Philippines was in 1994. I heard criticism for forgetting my own dialect. Those people didn't understand, but eventually I was able to pick it up. I learned how to work here. In the Philippines, I didn't work. So coming to America, I was forced to work. My first job was at McDonalds. I'm proud of that."

Marilou Francisco

"My grandmother was from the northern Philippines and she was a Thomasite English teacher. And my



"I was working for a radio station in the Philippines when the German embassy sent out some forms from Deutche Welle (the

German national radio service) for any broadcaster interested in doing ad-

vanced training in journalism. So I tried and I was accepted. And then I went to Germany."

Osmena

"I didn't know a single word of German at the time. But I came with an open



Francisco

mind, and ready to discover what needed to be discovered, and I would say I didn't have any problem adapting to a different culture. I had no culture shock at all."

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Town hall back on track for SHAPE and Chièvres



Col. Dean Nowowiejski, 80th Area Support Group Commander, explains an information sheet to the town hall audience May 19.

By Rick Haverinen

After a hiatus of at least two years, the SHAPE and Chièvres military communities exchanged information with their leadership May 19 at the Maisières Hotel ballroom.

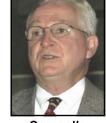


Shepard

About 55 attendees heard 80th Area Support Group Commander Col. Dean Nowowiejski explain organizational structure of the 80th ASG and tenant units, and that these meetings would be chaired by a lieutenant colonel in the 80th ASG who would act as deputy commander.

This inaugural meeting was chaired by Lt. Col. George Shepard, who is the 80th ASG's Director of Public Works.

A community member asked the AAFES representative about the completion of repair work to the children's play area in the PX food court. The response was that a contractor has been selected but a completion date has not been set. In the meantime, a sign will be installed with more details about the delay.



Caruselle

During the presentation of Joe Caruselle, principal at SHAPE American Elementary School, a community member announced that the PTSA needs additional board volunteers for the next school year.

SHAPE Health Facility Commander Lt. Col. Mark Menich announced the Army is transitioning to a new computer system for maintaining health records,

and that training for health care givers would mean delays for some patients to receive less-urgent visits.

"If you're sick, you'll get seen," Menich said, "but for routine things like physicals and the like, yes, we are backed up."

Two community members asked Menich about filling prescriptions at the clinic pharmacy. He said the phar-

macy could temporarily refill prescriptions from another military healthcare facility, but that prescriptions from local host nation doctors could not be filled.

"If you go down to the pharmacy in Nimy with your prescription, they will fill it for you free of charge

and bill us," Menich said.

Menich said the Army's decision to centralize healthcare records in a computer database is controversial because of privacy concerns, but that only healthcare providers would be able to access records.

A community member asked Menich if the clinic was expecting to add a pediatrician to the staff. Menich responded the Army will not assign a pediatrician to the clinic because the military population is too small. He said he will continue to promote the idea, however.

Col. Steve Lee, Commander of the SHAPE Dental Clinic, said the staffing was being reduced to dentists moving on to other assignments. This condition is reducing the available appointment opportunities.

"We are getting another hygienist in June," Lee said. "That will ease up appointment availability for dental hygiene."

Town hall meetings will be scheduled on the second Thursday of the first month of each quarter.

COLA survey could mean extra cash

Lee

According to the 80th Area Support Group's Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) survey manager, answering on-line questions

could mean extra cash in service members' pockets.

'We need complete community participation in this survey because the success of this project is directly reflected in our paychecks," said Joe Troxell, the 80th ASG Director of Human Support Services.

osd.mil/oscola/lps/germany/.

Troxell said the COLA survey is in two phases, and the first part that needs nearly universal participation by uniformed service members in the on-line cost of living survey. The closing date to participate in the survey is June 15. The survey is fully automated and can be completed online at https://www.perdiem.

"Phase two of this project is a retail price report, or RPR," Troxell said. "We're going to ask people who do most of the shopping on the economy to tell us what they spend their money on. We're going to ask the Family Readiness Groups as the tool to get that done, and to ask for volunteers. The project involves going out and

> visiting the stores where they shop on the economy, looking at a list of different products, and quoting the prices the stores charge for those goods."

'Also included are certain services that we use on the economy," Troxell said. "For instance, just buying gas for your barbeque. They may buy several bottles of gas per year. And how much that costs needs to be noted. There's

also an opportunity in the retail price report phase to be able to add stores that are not yet noted. So everyone should be able to make a significant contribution now."

For more information call Joe Troxell at DSN 366-6238 or 065 32-6238. POCs for the Tri-border Community are Capt. Jon Beck, jonathan.beck@ benelux.army.mil, DSN 360-7305; and MSG Stephen Kosaka, Stephen.kosaka@benelux. army.mil, DSN 360-7345.



NSA Brussels Calendar

U.S. Forces CYS Softball Championships (Girls ages 13-15), June 3. Contact Child and Youth Services for times and details, DSN 368-9649. NSA's Idol Contest, June 4, at Three Star Lounge. DSN 368-9822; Pool Tournament, June 17 from 9 p.m.-midnight. Soul Food Night/ R & B Night, June 18, starting 8 p.m. Free ACS Computer Classes: MS-Word, June 6; MS-Excel, June 7; MS-PowerPoint and MS-Outlook, June 8; and MS-Access, June 9. All classes are

9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the NSA Community Computer Lab. Sign up: DSN 368-9783.

New Parent Support Group

- Toddler Nutrition Class, The power of snacking for preschoolers, June 7, 10 a.m.noon, CYS Multipurpose Room. Infant CPR and First Aid Class, 6:30-8:30 p.m., NSA Fellowship Hall, chapel area, Bldg. 2. Info: DSN 368-9684.

Metro Madness Outing, June 17, 9:25 a.m.-2:30 p.m., ACS Bldg. 4, top floor.. Info: DSN 368-9729.

SHAPE / Chièvres Local Calendar

CYS Instructional Class Recital with guest Steve Austin and his Hip Hop Dancers, June 8, 5:45-8 p.m., at SHAPE Cinema. Info: DSN 423-5612.

SHAPE Players Present "A Few Good Men" by Aaron Sorkin, June 9-12, 7:30 p.m., SHAPE Entertainment Center, DSN 423-3312.

Chièvres Library Summer Reading Program, June 20-July 29. Info: DSN 361-5767.

Prime Time Lounge - "Cookyour-own" steak night, June 3, starting 6 p.m., \$13 or euro 13. The PTL is on Daumerie Caserne. Info: DSN 361-5540.

Veterinarian services - The Veterinary Clinic on Daumerie Caserne has new hours until June 10. The clinic will be open half days, 9 a.m.-noon on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The clinic is closed on Thursdays for training. The clinic will also be closed June 17. Info: DSN 361-5722 or 068 27-5722.

Thom Shepherd Country Band - free live show, June 18 on SHAPE; and June 19 at AAFES Parking Lot on Chièvres Air Base. Both concerts start 3 p.m. **BOSS** has a trip going to the amusement park SIX Flags Belgium on June 11. Info: your unit rep or DSN 361-5394.

Mini-Olympics on June 6, 2005 4:30-6:30 p.m., at the SHAPE athletic track. This event is for boys and girls ages 7 (born in 1998) through 13 (born in 1992). Info or registration: SHAPE Child and Youth Services, DSN 423-3874 or DSN 423-5856.

Senior NCO Safety Orientation Course is in Chièvres, July 6-8. To sign up contact Rudy Magain, DSN 361-5561, or rudy.magain@benelux.army.mil; or Patricia Lobert, 361-5535, or patricia.lobert@benelux. The Meteor-Heraut June 3, 2005

USAG Schinnen Tri-border News

Exercise enhances emergency skills



Photo by Lou Gelissen

A fireman from the Born Fire Department decontaminates himself after clearing the post office during the mass casualty exercise at USAG Schinnen.

A Mass Casualty Exercise (MASCAL) was held here May 23 to test the emergency response capabilities of the U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) Schinnen's Military Police Reaction Force, the host nation and first responders (fire department, emergency

medical teams).

The scenario consisted of a white powder substance found in a package at the Post Office which occurred at approximately 8 a.m. The local Schinnen fire department assisted by the Born fire department and police worked

together with the base's first responders (designated local national personnel and Koninklijke Marechausse (KMAR Dutch Military Police), to minimize casualties and the loss of life.

"The overall response time was faster than expected," said Randy Garfield, Force Protection Officer. The exercise was intended to improve necessary skills for a quick response to any type of real disaster. "The last exercise of this size was in Oct. 2004, but we train once a month and anticipate a full scale exercise every six months," Garfield explained. "Pooling the resources of the military and civilians of USAG Schinnen and the citizens of the Schinnen community, we practice different scenarios to improve response time, use of resources, and skills to effectively and efficiently respond in any emergency."

Perfection is the goal during these exercises, but according to Garfield, new equipment and new ways of doing things in emergency situations are the challenges that make each exercise a learning situation. According to Garfield, the goal is to make sure that everyone does the right thing, and checks every area leaving nothing to speculation.

"It went very well," stated Garfield.
"Everyone was enthusiastic and wanted to do everything right. All areas are always open to improvement," he continued, "but on the whole I believe the exercise went very well."



Photo by Sylvia Bowro

Fireperson Yolanda Jansen waits for the signal to suit up.



Photo by C.W. Fick, Jr.

Army Field Support Brigade – Europe Soldiers uncase new battalion and company colors during a May 23 ceremony at Hammonds Barracks, Seckenheim, Germany. The newly designated units provide expeditionary logistics support from locations in England, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Italy and Germany.

Five Europe-based units took a giant step into the future of logistics support during a ceremony yesterday at Hammonds Barracks.

Combat Equipment Battalions in Livorno, Italy; Bettembourg, Luxembourg; Eygelshoven, Netherlands and Hythe, England were re-desig-

Army logistics units in Europe get new name, mission

nated as Army Field Support Battalions and a Combat Equipment Base at Rhine Ordnance Barracks, Germany became an Army Field Support Company

Speaking to the troops and guests, Gen. Benjamin S. Griffin, commander of Army Materiel Command, noted the newly designated units are the first of their kind and establish a more effective way to support expeditionary fighting forces. "You are leading the effort in AMC and setting the standard," he said. Griffin went on to say that Army Field Support Brigade - Europe and its subordinate units are on the tip of the transformation spear, harnessing acquisition, logistics and technology in a way that will improve support to combat forces.

"This ceremonial change validates our concept of 21st century logistics support," said Col. Xavier P. Lobeto, brigade commander. "We've been adapting to change and shifting our mission focus for some time. Now, we can claim the name that describes what we do: Army Field Support."

The new name reflects a new mission. "We're already well down the road of expeditionary logis-

tics support. Two of our four battalion commanders, and many staff members, are deployed from their home stations to combat zones. Brigade head-quarters has deployed an operations command post, providing command and control of Army Materiel Command activities in Iraq," said Lobeto, who is himself deployed to Iraq.

Lobeto noted that the direction of AFSB-E and its subordinate units is tied to two things: Army transformation to expeditionary capabilities and the new shape of U.S. Army Europe and U.S. European Command. "We deliver Army Field Support Command and Army Materiel Command capabilities to USAREUR and USEUCOM, so we are smack in the middle of transformation," he said.

Today, AFSB-E units are heavily engaged in delivering urgently needed equipment and expert logistics assistance to supported units like the 1st Armored and 1st Infantry Divisions. "Looking ahead, we will adapt to the new circumstances as USAREUR repositions, and press on doing what we do best: delivering logistics power projection capabilities to combat units," Lobeto concluded.

- The Meteor-Heraut June 3, 2005

USAG Schinnen Tri-border News

Asian Pacific American Heritage celebration a success



Left, Mrs. Hollis serves Pansit, a Phillipine food, to Andrew Neeley. Right, two year-old Sophia-Delores Notarianni pleased a large crowd of members of the 254th BSB Tri-Border community performing a Polynesian dance.



The U.S. Army Garrison Schinnen Tri-border Special Emphasis Program committee held an Asian Pacific American Heritage celebration May 21, at Posey Circle on Schinnen. Over 300 people turned out for a free food tasting, exhibitions, Polynesian dancers, Kung Fu presentations, face painting and a Hula Hoop contest for the children.

Members of the Asian-Pacific tri-border community pitched in to help prepare delicious dishes from the Philippines, Malaysia, Korea and China for community members to sample.

"This was a great effort of a lot of people in the community who volunteered to help prepare the food and bring in cultural items for display. We couldn't have done it without their help and hard work," said Sgt. 1st Class Dave Williams, USAG Schinnen Equal Opportunity advisor.

Gary Sinise, Lt. Dan Band entertain community

Hundreds of Tri-border community members attended a free concert May 19 featuring the Lt. Dan Band with Gary Sinise at the AFNORTH International School Auditorium. The band, currently on a tour of northern Europe, is sponsored by United Service Organization and Armed Forces Entertainment (USO/AFE).

The band began the concert by playing the theme song from CSI New York, and then played a variety of music from artists such as Jimmy Hendrix, Janis Joplin, John Mayer, the Police and Linkin Park to name a few.

Sinise, who played Lt. Dan in the movie 'Forrest Gump' and currently stars in the series 'CSI: New York', has played in rock bands since high school. He and the band delighted the audience for over three hours. Sinise was inspired by the terrorist attack on Sept. 11, 2001, to use the talents of the band and share it with military troops.

The audience spent the evening dancing in the aisles and singing along with the group. Band members climbed off the stage to dance with the guests, and some members of the audience were invited on stage as well. The excitement was contagious as young and old alike spent hours enjoying the music.



Gary Sinise, far right, and the Lt. Dan Band entertain the Tri-border community with a variety of tunes during a three hour concert at AFNORTH International School Auditorium, Brunssum, NL.

Girl Scout Cadet earns top Silver Award

By Sylvia Bowron

Elizabeth Crate, a Girl Scout Cadet and 8th grader at AFNORTH International School, organized and conducted a Teen Health Fair May 13 in the AFNORTH school cafeteria. The fair consisted of presentations on teen health issues, exercise, and booklets on nutrition and eating disorders. The fair also featured healthy treats of fruit and vegetables given to each group of students who stopped by for lunch.

Hans Luijpen, of Child Youth Services gave a short presentation on obesity, bulimia and anorexia, three health issues facing teens today. He used statistics and facts about these disorders and mentioned the names of famous and important people who battle these issues. Luijpen also spoke on the importance of daily exercise.

Luijpen explained some simple but effective exercises that can be performed using a Swiss ball, as Joe Lewis, supervisor, Schinnen Fitness Center demonstrated. "The ball I used measured 65 cm in diameter," said Lewis, "but the size of the ball will vary according to the height of the person using it," he concluded.

At the end of each presentation, Crate, a member of Tri-border Troop 230, challenged students to write a short essay on, 'What I learned at the Teen Health Fair' and to turn them in to their English teacher. The lucky winner of the essay contest will win two tickets to Euro Disney.

This project was a culmination of a year of

See SILVER Page 8



Elizabeth Crate, left, welcomes students to the Teen Health Fair as fellow Scouts Jackie Nolt, Katie Jensen and Kathy Borderud demonstrate some simple exercises.

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SILVER from Page 7

Cadet Silver Award. Using the internet, she wrote to several state Food and Drug Administration (FDA) offices as well as other organizations introducing herself, telling them about her project and asking for information booklets and pamphlets on exercise, nutrition, and other eating disorders to give to fellow students.

"She worked hard on this project to get her Silver Award," said Alice Crate, Elizabeth's mother. "Elizabeth got everything on her own," she said. "It started out small and then she starting asking 'mom, what about if I added this' and 'what about doing that' and it just kept growing," Mrs. Crate added.

Her friends and co-cadets Katie Jensen and Kathy Borderud and Senior Scout Jackie Nolt assisted Elizabeth in her Silver Award Project. Elizabeth also thanked the American Spouses Club, Army Community Services, the Schinnen Commissary, Moral, Welfare and Recreation and others for their donations and help with this project.

USAG Schinnen Local Calendar

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BOSS Flea Market

Better Opportunities for Single Service Members (BOSS) will hold a Flea Market, Saturday, June 4, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Schinnen Sports Center. Open to all U.S. / NATO ID card holders. Vendor tables are \$5 and vendors keep all sales/profits. Food and refreshments are available. For more information call DSN 364-2518/3748 or 046 526-2518/3748 or 061 252-0626.

Weekend Marriage Retreat

The 80th ASG Family Life Chaplain is sponsoring a weekend Marriage Retreat, June 10-12, in Brugge, Belgium. Cost is \$10 per couple. Call the Family Life Center at DSN 423-5653 or 065 44 5653.

Community information

For more information on your community log on to the following sites.

www.schinnen.army.mil/sites/local/ www.80thasg.mil/sites/local/ www.brussels.army.mil/NSA.htm www.ima.army.mil/europe/index.asp



Photo by Kathryn Thomas

touches of potting soil to a new planter placed outside the patio doors of Youth Services.

Torch Club beautifies area

Members of the USAG Schinnen Youth Services (YS) Torch Club enhanced the YS patio May 20, by planting two apple blossom trees and six flowers outside the YS main doors as a community service to better their environment. The club used funds raised during past events to purchase planters, plants and necessary materials to do the job with the assistance of advisors Kathryn Thomas and Heidi LaMarr. The six flowers represent the six Torch Club members: Natalie Watson, Mariah Clark, Emily Dworak, Sara Cheatnut, Anil Ozyaclin and Natache Cobbs.

Leisure Activities ~ by Rita Hoefnagels

June 3: *Rhythm & Blues Festival* at many locations in the center of Zwolle (NL).

June 3-19: Cirque du Soleil at Ahoy in Rotterdam (NL). This is more than a circus or theater show: it makes the impossible possible. The international cast presents a huge variety of new acts, including unequaled tight-rope acts and acrobatic tours de force. Information: www.ahoy.nl.

June 4: "Vlaggetjesdag" in the harbor of Scheveningen (NL). Festivities around the first catch of herring with demonstrations of old crafts, traditional costumes, and tasting of the "first caught" herring. No entrance fee.

June 4-5: History Live Festival in the center of Dordrecht (NL). All aspects of daily life in the Middle Ages till the 19th century can be seen and experienced at the beautiful quay and in the picturesque streets of one of the Netherlands' oldest towns. Information: 31 (0)78-6317960.

June 5: PC *Discount at MECC in Maastricht* (NL). This is the fair for those that love video/computer games. Open: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Entry: Euro 7.

June 8-19: Pasar Malam Besar at Malieveld in The Hague (NL). An Indonesian festival with five theaters, 200 stands and 35 restaurants with Indonesian and Asian food. It is the largest Eurasian festival in the world. Entry: ranges from Euro 4.50 to Euro 12.50. Information: www.pasarmalambesar.nl. June 10-12: Bluesfestival at more then 30 in- and outside stages in the center of Utrecht (NL). No entry fee.

June 11: "Aaltjesdag" is the traditional opening of the tourist season with dem-

onstrations of old crafts, folklore, theater and lots of music in the center, harbor and boulevard of Harderwijk (NL). No entry fee.

June 11-12: Marlboro Masters at Circuit in Zandvoort (NL). This international meeting for Formula 3 is the stepping stone to Formula 1. Various activities, including the Grand Prix Action with the Ferrari F1-world, are organized for the spectators. Other activities include a coach tour; memorabilia market; demonstrations and competitions. Info: 31 (0)23-5740740.

Thru June 12: All Dali at Museum Boijmans van Beuningen on Museumpark 18-20 in Rotterdam (NL). This exhibition presents the unknown side of Salvador Dali. Paintings, drawings, photos and other items show Dali's versatility. Objects on display include the Mae West Lip Sofa and the painting "Figueras". Admission is Euro 12. Information: 31 (0)10-4419475

June 16-18: Summer Fair at De Graanschuur, Doetseweg 43 in Giessenburg (NL). "De Graanschuur" (the Granary) is a historic indoor shopping street, in which one will find 6 countryliving & lifestyle shops. During the summer fair the shops have more to offer then normally such as delicatessen, decorations, furniture, pottery, gifts, clothes, antiques, and more. Open: Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. June 17-18: Open House at the Dutch Royal Air Force. Gilze-Rijen Air Base near the town of Rijen (NL) opens its gates to the public. There will be a great air and static show with many demonstrations.

JFC Alliance Theater

June 3, 7 p.m.; June 4, 5 p.m. and 8:15 p.m.; June 5, 8:15 p.m.; June 6, 1 p.m. Star Wars: Episode III Return of the Sith. Starring Ewan McGregor, Hayden Christensen, Samuel L. Jackson. Rated PG-13. The third and final installment in the Star Wars prequel trilogy. Anakin Skywalker's turn to the Dark Side of the Force, the continuing Clone Wars and the final fate of the Old Republic should be revealed.

June 10, 7:30 p.m. The Ring 2. Starring Naomi Watts, Simon Baker. Rated PG-13. Rachel Keller, who, six months after the events of the first film, moves to Astoria, Ore., with her son, Aidan, to escape their memories of what happened in Seattle. When a few locals start dying, and a strange videotape appears, Rachel becomes aware that the creepy Samara is back and after Aidan.

June 11,4 p.m. Beauty Shop. Starring Queen Latifah, Alicia Silverstone. Rated PG-13. Gina Norris is a long way from the Barbershop – she's moved to Atlanta and made a name for herself at a posh salon. But when her egotistical boss takes credit for her work, she leaves the salon to open a shop of her own. Gina buys a rundown salon and

inherits a motley group of headstrong stylists, colorful clientele, and a sexy piano-playing electrician. It's a rocky road to fulfilling her dreams, but you can't keep a good woman down.

7 p.m. Sin City. Starring Bruce Willis, Mickey Rourke. Rated R. Sin City is a violent city where the police department is as corrupt as the streets are deadly. There's the street thug Marv whose desperate quest to find the killer of a prostitute name Goldie will lead him to the foulest edges of town. Inhabiting many of those areas is a photographer in league with the sordid ladies of Sin City, headed by Gail who opens up a mess of trouble after tangling with a corrupt cop by the name of Jackie Boy.

June 17, 7:30 p.m. The Upside of Anger. Starring Joan Allen, Kevin Costner. Rated R. Terry is left to raise her four headstrong daughters when her husband unexpectedly disappears. Things get even more hectic when she falls for her neighbor Denny, a once-great baseball star turned radio D.J. This leaves her daughters out on a limb, they are forced to juggle their mom's romantic dilemmas as well as their own.

June 3, 2005

The Meteor-Heraut

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Freedom Team Salute launched

The U.S. Army has launched Freedom Team Salute (FTS), a new program to honor those who support our Soldiers: parents and spouses, and those

who employ Soldiers serving in the Army Reserve and the Army

National Guard today. Freedom Team Salute also honors Army Veterans who have served our nation and continue to support Soldiers currently fighting the Global War on Terrorism.

Soldiers may nominate spouses, parents and employers, and Veterans may register for an FTS Com-

mendation package online at the FTS Web site - http://freedomteamsalute.army.mil. To learn more about Operation Tribute to Freedom go to http://www.army.mil and click on the box entitled Operation Tribute to Freedom. Recipients will receive their FTS Commendation package in four to six weeks.

Meteor-Heraut Deadline and Publication Dates Copy is due at noon

Print Date Deadline Deadline Print Date Deadline Print Date June 6 June 17 July 4 July 15 Aug. 8 Aug. 19 Sept. 6 Sept. 16 Aug. 23 Oct. 7 June 20 July 1 July 25 Aug. 5 Sept. 2 Sept. 27

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Policy

- We encourage letters to the editor, but they must be signed.
 We will consider withholding the name of the author upon request. Letters regarding an issue should contribute to informational interest.
- We reserve the right to edit all material for style, to fit available space, to resolve libel, safety or force protection issues and to correct grammar.
- Articles in plain text and separate photographic files may be submitted but publication depends upon the judgment of the editor. All submissions should be in electronic form as plain text. We cannot process information in documents such as PowerPoint, Excel or Acrobat.
- Event announcements must use civilian dates and times.
 Spell out acronyms and include a contact name, telephone number and e-mail address. We cannot reproduce prepared flyers in the Meteor-Heraut.

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- Any gambling or lottery requiring payment for chance cannot be advertised as stated in 18 U.S.C. 1302.
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